

Country Journal

Devoted to the Needs of the Hilltowns

Becket, Blandford, Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington,
Middlefield, Montgomery, Otis, Plainfield, Russell, Sandisfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, Worthington

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WORTHINGTON

Licenses focus of bylaw hearing

By Peter Spotts

The discussion of the proposed Marijuana Bylaw focused heavily around the number of licenses allowable in town at a Planning Board public hearing on Friday, Oct. 30.

The bylaw as written would allow licenses equal to 20% of the number of liquor licenses in town, which is five. This means there would be one license for a marijuana retail establishment.

“It’d be the same thing as having one liquor license in town,” resident Cai Walkowiak said. “Are you going to give that to Corner’s or are you going to give that to Liston’s? There’s a difference in services offered.”

“What if someone else wanted to apply, could we do a waiver to allow it to round up?” said Planning Board Chairman Amy Wang.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Senior Planner Ken Comia explained the language used in this case is

LICENSES, page 11

A HILLTOWNS HALLOWEEN!



From left, Hampshire Regional High School Seniors Larry Weeks, Ashlynn Packey, Jerry Creek, and Grace Stanek are a group of superheroes for the Senior Halloween Party on Monday, Nov. 2. See more photos on page 10.

Photos by Shelby Macri.



Left, Ethan Davenport welcomes trunk-or-treaters with a dinosaur and a cat during the trunk-or-treat event hosted by the Chester Recreation Committee at Emery Field on Saturday Oct. 31. Right, Kate Dahill carries her tiger, Luke, during the Worthington Halloween parade on Saturday, Oct. 31. More photos page 7 and 12.

Photo by Peter Spotts



CHESTER

Trunk-or-treat community effort

By Shelby Macri

The Recreation Committee held a trunk-or-treat for Halloween at the Emery Street Ball Field, where a one-way path was set up for families to safely dress up and pick up candy. There were cars set up one parking space or more away from each other to maintain social distance.

There were plastic pumpkins set up in between cars to make it obvious that cars couldn’t park next to each other. People donated their jack-o-lanterns to Kathy Engwer to help line the entrance of the trunk-

TRUNK-OR-TREAT, page 8

HAMPSHIRE

Remote lessons open opportunity

By Peter Spotts

The Hampshire Regional School Committee is looking to make the best of the lengthy remote learning schools and teachers have adjusted to since March and turn snow days into remote opportunities to keep the school year from getting extended into the summer.

REMOTE, page 11

HUNTINGTON

Truck ready for winter work

By Peter Spotts

After a couple tense months waiting for word on repairs to the Highway Department’s one-ton pickup truck, Highway Superintendent Charles Dazelle notified the Selectboard on Oct. 29 it is ready to go for the winter.

The truck failed a state inspection earlier this year due to a cracked frame, leading the Selectboard to have to pull it from the active fleet. Following the welding of the frame, the shop spent a couple weeks in shop getting mechanical work done to be ready for inspection.

“We got it back. Mechanics been done, welding’s been done, the red

TRUCK, page 2

HAMPSHIRE

Seniors don masks for festive Halloween celebration

By Shelby Macri

The seniors at Hampshire Regional were able to dress up in costumes, and enjoy some time outside with hot chocolate and doughnuts during their Halloween party on Monday, Nov. 2. Awards were given out for the best singular, duo, and group costumes as well.

The Halloween party is a tradition in the school, an annual opportunity for the seniors dressing up, while class advisors do something

different to celebrate every year.

“This is something we’ve done every year; we did this when I went to school here,” Principal Kristen Smidy said. “I remember dressing up and celebrating, so it’s great that we’re able to hold something for them today.”

Class Advisor Kim Hallett put together 100 goodie-bags for the seniors, and she put 10 gift cards in random bags. The seniors were able to pick a number

with the chance of receiving a gift card, amongst other treats like candy. Hallett helped to hand out the doughnuts while the other class advisor, Chris Butler, helped to hand out the hot chocolate to the students.

Smidy had the seniors take a lap around the school to get their blood pumping, and had then form a line once they got back to the courtyard. Each person, whether as a single or group costume, took their turn to pose for Smidy to take a

quick picture. As Smidy photographed the costumes, another staff member wrote down the costumes as a way to keep track of who dressed as what.

There were group costumes like the Wizard of Oz, where even the good witch, wicked witch, and Toto were represented by someone. A few people dressed up as characters from the Disney TV show Phineas and Ferb, two students even hand

MASKS, page 11



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HILLTOWNS

Hilltown Holiday Help looking for donors this month

For more than 20 years local families have received help with gifts for their children through a community project called Hilltown Holiday Help. Children of families with low to moderate income in the hilltowns are eligible to receive clothing, books and toys.

This effort is organized by the Hilltown Family Center and Hilltown Social Services programs in conjunction with the National Honor Society with contributions from other organizations and individuals throughout the hilltowns and beyond. Last year, we were able to provide gifts for 96 children from 52 families. This year, we expect an even higher

need as the economic effects of the pandemic have had a great impact on local families.

Holiday Help is currently looking for donors. This is a community effort. Local businesses, schools, churches, organizations, and area residents are invited to help with fundraising and shopping to provide gifts to someone in need in local communities. Hilltown Holiday Help has also found recipients for holiday meals, cords of wood, help with utility bills, gift cards, gifts for teens and adults, and other items when provided.

This year, the operation will be a little different for the safety of families, stu-

dents, donors, and staff. For families in need, wish lists will be available through Hilltown Community Center staff from Monday, Nov. 2 through Monday, Nov. 30 via telephone, email, mail, or Zoom, or at select locations throughout the hilltowns. Families with children from newborns through the age of 12 may be eligible. Proof of residency and birth certificates or social security cards for children. Gifts will be distributed on Thursday, Dec. 10, through contactless curbside pickup or delivery.

For donors, please arrange for a drop off time with staff or send monetary donations to the Attention of Kim Savery c/o

HCHC Finance Office at 58 Old North Road, Worthington, MA 01098, with checks made out to Hilltown Community Health Centers and Holiday Help in the memo.

If someone is unable to commit to becoming a sponsor this year, please look for the National Honor Society's fundraiser or consider donating money or volunteering to deliver — a great opportunity for someone to channel their inner Santa.

If someone's interested in donating or have questions, please contact Susan at 413-667-2203, ext. 311 and slebarron@hchcweb.org, or Kim at 413-685-3500 and ksavery@hchcweb.org.

Children’s fund auction online until Friday, Nov. 13

The Chesterfield-Goshen Children’s Fund is hosting an online fundraising auction. The fund’s mission is to ensure all school-age children in the towns of Chesterfield and Goshen and aims to provide winter gear, clothing, and/or a special toy for the children on their list, and this year is especially challenging.

The auction is active now and bidding will end on Nov. 13th at 8 p.m. All proceeds directly benefit the fund. Monetary donations may also be made on the auction website or contact cgchildrensfund@gmail.com for more information. The auction website is cgcf.betterworld.org/auctions/chesterfield-goshen-children-s-f.

Scouts collecting donations

Troop 120 from Chester is currently running a food drive in Chester and Huntington. Donation drop boxes for non-perishable foods are located in Chester at the Post Office, and in Huntington at the Post Office and at Moltenbrey’s market.

The boxes will be there for the

next several weeks. The Scouts will be at Gateway Farm & Pet, 59 Russell Road, Huntington, on Saturday, Nov. 14 from 8 a.m. to noon collecting food donations. They will also be selling candy bars and hand-poured candles. Please stop by and support local Scouts.

Public comments sought on Hilltown Land Trust’s accreditation renewal

The land trust accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. Hilltown Land Trust is pleased to announce it is applying for renewal of accreditation. A public comment period is now open.

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, conducts an extensive review of each applicant’s policies and programs.

“As a small, regional land trust that is dedicated to providing excellent conservation services for our community, we want to be sure that we are keeping up with the best practices in our field,” said Sally Loomis, Executive Director of Hilltown Land Trust. “Renewing our accreditation with the Land Trust Alliance is the best way for us to ensure that we are holding ourselves to the highest standard.”

The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. Comments must relate to how Hilltown Land Trust complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. For the full list of standards see www.landtrustaccreditation.org/help-and-resources/indicator-practices.

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org, or email your comment to info@landtrustaccreditation.org. Comments may also be faxed or mailed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments: (fax) 518-587-3183, or mailed to 36 Phila Street, Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

Comments on Hilltown Land Trust’s application will be most useful by March 21, 2021.

HUNTINGTON

Cultural Council grant deadline pushed

HUNTINGTON — The Huntington Cultural Council announced the deadline for grant submissions for the 2021 cycle has changed. The Massachusetts Cultural Council has just extended the deadline to Dec. 14, 2020.

Due to continuing budget adjustments as a result of COVID-19, there are still no final allocation figures for the Cultural Council programs. Last year, \$5,116 was awarded by Huntington.

These Local Cultural Council grants can be used to support activities including exhibits, festivals, school-based events, workshops, lectures, and media projects. In this challenging year, the HCC encourages and supports

artists in considering creative alternatives for their projects. Flexibility on the part of the applicants, their venues and the councils will help to ensure success.

This HCC receives funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. For help with the on-line process, applicants can contact MCC directly at 617-858-2733 or mcc_help_desk@art.state.ma.us

Applications can be submitted online at www.mass-culture.org. All applications must be submitted by Monday, Dec. 14. For more information, please review our local priorities at www.mass-culture.org or contact Lynn Winsor at 413-667-5563 or huntingtonculturalcouncil@gmail.com.

Rec Committee gathers donations for closet

HUNTINGTON — The Recreation Committee will be collecting specific items from the community to donate to The Village Closet to help families in the upcoming winter months.

Items requested are larger sized diapers and pull-ups, snow pants and snow boots. Now that the colder weather has arrived and people are pulling out their packed away clothing, it’s a great time to check to see if they still fit. Gently used snow pants with no tears and boots are welcome in all sizes.

Collection will be from Nov. 15

through Dec. 15 during regular hours and at additional designated times to be announced. Regular hours are 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays, and 6-8 p.m. on Thursdays. Special arrangements for drop up and pick up are available.

It Takes a Village is a non-profit organization located at 2 East Main Street, Huntington that serves families in the Hilltowns of Western Massachusetts. Please contact the Huntington recreation committee with any questions at huntingtonrec@gmail.com.

NORWICH HILL

The First Congregational Church of Huntington reminds everyone that even though our physical doors are closed until further notice, we are most definitely open for worship, praise, ministry and fellowship. We are an Open and Affirming Church and we invite and welcome everyone - seekers, believers, and wonderers alike, on their journey of faith, to join in 10 a.m. Zoom Sunday worship. We are also meeting for Friday Zoom Fellowship Time and the pastor is always available to speak with you. If you do not receive our emails and would like to connect with our Zoom worship service or fellowship time, please contact Pastor Carol at firstchurchofhuntington@gmail.com to receive the informa-

tion you will need to participate.

This week’s reading from Joshua 24:1-2a, 13-25, invites us to consider that what we worship, and treasure shapes our character as we wonder what is it we focus our spirit on.

We wish everyone God’s peace. Our prayers for health and wellbeing are with you and all the world during this time of pandemic. Please use the phone numbers and email address provided to stay in touch or to contact the pastor. You are also invited to find us on Facebook at “Norwich Hill” for updates, information and spiritual encouragement. For more information, please contact 413-667-3935 or 860-798-7771 or firstchurchofhuntington@gmail.com.

TRUCK from page 1

‘R’ is gone,” Dazelle said. “Right now, we’ve brought it down for a sticker. It’s passed inspection.”

The importance for the pickup in the department’s plow plans for winter snowstorms is vital. It handles the small roads of the downtown area, which are difficult for the larger trucks to maneuver, as well as going up the dirt roads and steeper hills to lay down sand and make slick surfaces more traversable for the larger trucks following behind to clear them. Outside of plowing, it also is useful for fire accident scenes.

“It’s just a piece of equipment that is very well used,” Dazelle said.

The final bill is estimated to be around \$9,000 for the repairs, plus Dazelle is searching for a contractor to drive the truck this winter. Regardless of this cost, Dazelle said it will be cheaper than if the town had to contract a driver and truck for the winter — if they could find one. An RFP looking for a contracted truck while repairs were underway did not get any responses.

“Even with spending the nine grand, if we went out to hire in a truck for \$108 with a plow and sander, you get a 200-year storm, that would’ve been 20 grand,” Dazelle said. “We’re saving some money by just having a driver in our truck, providing it holds through maintenance that’s what I’m hoping.”

Dazelle hopes the truck will hold up and make it through the winter. Then, the department will look to get the support of the town at annual Town Meeting for a replacement. The truck is from 2009, which puts it in the middle of the average 10 to 12-year replacement schedule for highway vehicles.

“As far as I know. I’ve been trying to get it replaced for the past three years,” Dazelle said. “Moneywise and everything, the Selectboard and Finance [Committee] try the best they can to get everyone a piece of the pie.”

The truck driver position is currently being advertised and Administrative Secretary Jennifer Peloquin said applications are due by Nov. 20.

BLANDFORD

Board hears concerns over Covid cases, perc test

By Mary Kronholm

BLANDFORD — Board of Health member Jennifer Girard provided additional information and guidelines since the town has become a designated high-risk community with eight or more cases daily. The town now has a cumulative total of 12 COVID-19 cases.

The playground must be closed, access to town hall offices is very limited, family gatherings inside should be limited to 10 people, while outdoor gatherings are limited to no more than 25.

There will be signs at the playground indicating closure and the gates to Watson Park will be closed. A stay at home order goes into effect from 9:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. on Friday, Nov.6.

Safety is the greatest concern.

Last Monday, Oct. 26, Steve Hart of Chester Road brought his concerns regarding the water line and a recent perc

test performed on land which is the site for the new town Highway Garage across the street from his home.

The 500 feet of water line was replaced, and there is still 350 feet of lesser diameter that needs to be replaced as well. There is not enough volume or pressure to supply everyone there, according to Hart.

If the town does move forward with the highway garage, Hart said it was not a “good” perc test. “It was not done in virgin soil,” and he was able to provide a video to document his point. Hart said the test was done in soil that had been brought in as fill and it should have been at least a six foot hole rather than three so the test was actually performed in the original soil local to the area.

“Unless that test was done at seven or eight feet, it’s not a good test,” said Hart.

Hart provided the board this week with the Massachusetts General Law

310 CMR 15.104 regarding Percolation Testing to support his statement.

Selectboard member Thomas Ackley, who by nature of his own contracting business is knowledgeable about septic installations, said the witness should have recognized that the area for the test was not good

Hart also told the board that he didn’t want the town to spend money on a leach field that will fail.

“I hope you guys investigate,” said Hart.

Monday evening, Nov. 5, Highway Superintendent Rene Senecal told the board that he found no reason “to contest” the perc test. He said there were several holes dug at different depths and he was impressed with the thoroughness of the testing process.

Board member Thomas Ackley said, “At this point, to appease everybody, we should talk with DEP...call, speak with

someone who has something to do with perc test...and see where we go from there.”

Town Administrator Joshua A. Garcia told the board the books for 2019 are closed and estimated free cash in excess of \$567,000 in free cash with an additional \$170,000 in reimbursements to come. Board member Eric McVey suggested paving the Historical Society’s driveway and the driveway at The White Church.

A discussion of town priorities for next year, the Highway Garage and Fire Station top the list and Garcia suggested the projects be combined.

The town signed off on the Green Communities report for the town to submit to the state Department of Energy Resource.

The board voted to meet bi-weekly until the town is out of the high risk COVID-19 category. They will not meet next Monday, Nov. 12.

Town considering community development, financial goals

By Mary Kronholm

BLANDFORD — Last Monday, Oct. 26, Town Administrator Joshua A. Garcia gave a presentation for Community Development Objectives, Planning for Financial Security & Improved Quality of Life. This plan includes three benchmarks for the next three years which are Grow Tax Base by 10%; since fiscal 2018, total valuations has already grown 2.1%; add/expand revenue generating sources to town and reduce tax rate to \$16 per thousand or below, which is currently at \$17.76.

He elaborated his plan with ways to promote business growth with new opportunities and promoting local attractions. He proposed promoting residential development with second homes, attracting new families and having affordable housing.

In other business, the board accepted and signed a memo of understanding between the town and the Gateway Regional School District in case the school has to evacuate, students would be relocated at the Blandford Town Offices until picked up by parents.

The board appointed Stephanie Chaffee to serve on the Planning Board until the next annual town election in May. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education from Westfield State University.

The board voted to approve a contract with Franklin Regional Council of Governments for \$2,000 to help the town hire a project manager for the construction of a new highway garage as discussed at last week’s meeting.

The board also accepted the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, signed off on the Cannabis Control Commission stating that Belle Fleur Holdings LLC is in compliance with the town’s bylaws.

In the 90-day review of Theresa Donovan’s position as Animal Control Officer, it was determined that her efforts have “exceeded expectations”. She asked for assistance from the board in having dog license information from the Town Clerk’s office in a timelier manner; understanding that circumstances this year initiated a delay in the obtaining of licenses. She also submitted proposed changes in bylaws to the board.

Broadband informational session meets twice Nov. 7

BLANDFORD — “Good News,” said Municipal Light Board Chairman Peter Langmore. It is now possible to now sign up for high-speed internet service. The MLP is “gathering interest” at this time, no cost involved until equipment is installed.

The link to sign up is www.whipcityfiber.com/blandford.

There will be two information sessions on Broadband coming up Nov. 7. This is the link, and people are encour-

aged to sign up because seating is limited due to COVID-19 restrictions. One session is from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and again from noon to 1:30 p.m. Both sessions will be recorded and available on the town’s YouTube channel.

This link to sign up is www.eventbrite.com/e/blandford-broadband-marketing-event-nov-7th-tickets-123739733875.

For more information, contact Langmore at 413-505-9086.

VOTING DAY



Voters hit the polls early in the morning in Blandford. Photos by Mary Kronholm

BOH statement regarding COVID-19

BLANDFORD — On Oct. 29, the town became a high risk COVID-19 community. This means that over the past two weeks, residents have tested positive for COVID-19 at an average daily rate of eight or more per 100,000.

As a high-risk community, the town returns to Phase III, Step I. Blandford will remain a high-risk community until it has three consecutive weeks of lower risk reporting.

The Town of Blandford Board of Health has adapted the following informational guidelines to help residents reduce the risk of COVID-19. These guidelines are based on information provided by the Center for Disease Control, the Division of Local Services and other public officials.

The Board of Health asks that all residents of Blandford are serious in trying to follow the informational guidelines diligently so the town can quickly return to a healthy community. COVID-19 is everyone’s responsibility.

Common symptoms include fever, dry cough, tiredness. Less common symptoms include aches and pains, sore throat, diarrhea, conjunctivitis, headache, loss of taste or smell, a rash on skin, or discoloration of fingers or toes. Serious symptoms are difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, chest pain or pressure, or loss of speech or movement.

If someone travels in an area with high number of COVID-19 cases, they are asked to follow the CDC guidelines. They will need to quarantine for the required 14 days or have a negative test result.

If someone has been in close contact with someone infected by COVID-19, with a high chance of being infected themselves, stay home and do not come into physical contact with anyone.

Common Cold, Influenza (Flu) and COVID-19

The Common Cold is a viral infection that affects the upper respiratory tract (nose and throat).

It’s generally not considered serious, and most people recover within a week or two. A cold can be contagious from a few days before you start showing symptoms until you fully recover.

There are over 100 viruses that can cause the common cold. The weather itself cannot cause the common cold.

Influenza (Flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness and most people recover within five to seven days. The flu can be contagious from one day before symptoms develop up to



Tracey Allen checks in for a morning ballot.

OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Question about letter

Having had one of my letters to your paper rejected in recent weeks due to its “inflammatory” nature, I was taking some comfort in the fact that William Santy was sharing my same fate.

This confidence was dispelled as I read his usual tirades and misstatements on the typical Trumpian tropes of the uselessness of mask wearing.

A note to your readers explaining how Santy’s recent letter does not contain “... unsubstantiated allegations...” and that said facts “...need to cite credible, unbiased sources” as your editorial policy mandates, is badly needed.

Richard Mansfield
Worthington

A golden thank you

I want to thank the Journal for the lovely article concerning Ted Claydon’s receiving the Golden Cane Ward from the Worthington COA a few weeks ago (The Country Journal, Sept. 3). Ted was touched by this honor and by the presence of the friends who attended the ceremony.

Jerrilee Cain
Worthington



EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor should be 500 words or less in length. We require letter writers to include his or her name, town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

Mail letter to Country Journal, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or mail your letter to: countryjournal@turley.com.

GUEST COLUMN

An iconic song and an iconic tree commemorate Veterans Day

As we move closer to Veterans Day, our thoughts turn to the many men and women who serve or have served our country, and how we can best remember and support them. I think back to when I was a young adult and a mother from town tied yellow ribbons all over Ware to support her son who was serving overseas. I also remember the fad of those little yellow magnetic ribbons that folks put on their bumper as a show of solidarity. Did you ever wonder where “tie a yellow ribbon” came from? Read on to learn a bit of trivia about an iconic song and an iconic tree.

We’ve all heard the 70s song, sung by Tony Orlando and Dawn that popularized the yellow ribbon and made it the folk symbol that it is today. Legend has it that the inspiration for the song did come from a convict, released from prison and on a long bus ride home. His wife was instructed to tie a yellow ribbon around the oak tree in the center of town if she wished to give him a second chance. If he saw it then he knew to get off the bus. Reportedly the tree was covered in yellow ribbons!

In 1981, eight years after the song’s initial release, it rose in popularity once again. The yellow ribbon became a symbol of loyalty and patriotism for the 52 American hostages being held in Iraq. “If you still want me, whoa, tie a yellow ribbon ‘round the ole oak tree.”

I thought it fitting that the oak tree was chosen to bear such an important symbol of our culture. It is a tall, stately tree and its



wood is stronger and more durable than that of most trees, yet to me it is humble. At the height of foliage season an oak doesn’t shout “look at me!” like other trees do. It simply waits for the hoopla put on by the maples to pass, and then it delights us with a subtle beauty that is equally appealing.

Here are some oak tree statistics: There are some 450 species of oak. Some of them are evergreen, holding onto their leaves throughout the winter months. These oaks are located in the more southern, warmer regions of our country. Even though our oaks are deciduous, it takes a long time for them to completely defoliate. Sometimes it is the next season’s emerging leaves that finally push the old ones off. This year it took an October snowfall.

Did you know that oaks get struck by lightning more than any other tree? This is likely due to their height, some topping over 80 feet at maturity.

The oak is a member of the beech or Fagaceae family. One unique feature that the oak has and other members of the family do not is that its nut is carried in a cap. The nut and cap together are called an acorn. Acorns are a valuable food source for wildlife. Wild turkey, deer, larger songbirds and squirrels among others depend on the nut for surviving the winter. One way to tell the difference between species of oak tree is by their acorns. Examine how they wear their “cap.” The cap

of the white oak is about one-quarter the size of the oblong shaped nut. The red oak, on the other hand, has a squatty, saucer-like cap covering a more globose shaped nut.

Most oaks tolerate transplanting the best when they are young and small in size. The pin oak is one exception; its shallow, fibrous root system allows it to be transplanted as a larger specimen. For this reason, the pin oak is widely used for home landscaping. It is also highly sought after because of its unique, pyramidal shape: the lowest branches are pendulous, the middle are horizontal and the top are upright.

Did you know that cork is harvested from the bark of a species of oak tree? Yes, the cork oak grows in Spain, Portugal and parts of Northern Africa.

The oak tree can grow to be very old. At the writing of my reference book back in 1983, there was a 400-year-old white oak growing in Maryland by the name of the Wye Oak. It topped off at 95 feet tall, 165 feet wide and eight feet in diameter.

This Veteran’s Day, why not tie a yellow ribbon ‘round your oak tree or better yet, thank a veteran for his or her service.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.



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News, photo publication policy

As a community newspaper our focus has always been local news. While we try very hard to run upcoming events as a public service whenever space allows, space does not allow us to run an upcoming event repeatedly. Our policy is to limit publication of upcoming events to one article in advance of the event and, space permitting, a second brief reminder article the week prior to an event, and to run those articles in only one section of the paper, and not in multiple sections simultaneously. All such public service announcements and photos are subject to space limitations and deadlines, therefore publication cannot be guaranteed. Whenever copy for the week exceeds allotted space, news copy will take priority, and public service copy is the first area to be cut. We also reserve the right to edit for style and space, and are under no obligation to print lists of sponsorships, or articles that arrive after deadline, unless time and space allows.

Deadline is Monday at NOON, on holidays it is Friday at 2 p.m.

OPINION

HILLTOWN HISTORY

Board Games for the unbored

By Deborah Daniels

Was it the crooked walking stick carried by an old hare with glasses that made Uncle Wiggily so appealing? For those of you who don't know Uncle Wiggily, it was a board game kids loved to play when the weather forced them inside. Between early snowstorms and COVID-19, many of us are scraping the barrel for entertainment ideas. Look no further, board games here to the rescue! How about a peek at the history of board games?

Uncle Wiggily came out in 1916 and was based on a popular series of children's books by Howard Roger Garis. The Milton Bradley Company made this game right here in Springfield, MA. The company's first blockbuster game however was The Checkered Game of Life produced in 1860. The goal was to keep to a path of honor and bravery and avoid disgrace and ruin as you moved your player around the board game to reach happy old age. What a reward, huh? Some 45,000 copies of this game sold the first year it came out. The game has evolved over the years and is still sold as The Game of Life. Milton Bradley (1836-1911) was a bit of a genius when it came to games.

Milton Bradley trained as a draftsman. He moved to Springfield at the age of 19 to work designing locomotive railroad cars for the Wason Car Manufacturing Co. He was given a lithograph of a lavish train car that he helped design for the ruler of Egypt. He was so impressed with the picture that he went into the lithography business. His images of a beardless Abe Lincoln, running for President, kept him in the money. He conceived of the Checkered Game of Life while playing a game with his best friend. He test piloted the game in New York City and it sold out immediately. He ramped up production back in Springfield, where he observed how Civil War soldiers were bored waiting for assignments. Bradley produced small travel sized games of Chess, Checkers, Dominoes and even his Checkered Game of Life. He sold the games for \$1 each to soldiers and charitable organizations jumped in to buy large quantities to distribute. Easy money!

Hearing a lecture about the kindergarten movement in 1869, Milton Bradley was converted to the cause. The concept was that creative play educated children and fostered healthy development. This was an entirely new change from the regimented teaching common at the time. Milton Bradley had two daughters that he and his wife educated under this philosophy. He went on to devote his time to promoting the kindergarten movement both personally and through his company. He manufactured colored paper, paints and geometric blocks for teaching purposes. He introduced the pri-



Several Dominoes, from the popular game. Submitted photos be Deborah Daniels

mary colors that became the standard for children's art supplies. Who can forget the thrill of being given their first box of fat Milton Bradley crayons in school?

During the 1870s Milton Bradley had wooden croquet sets manufactured, because they were all the rage in game playing. He is credited with standardizing the rules for the game, and every set sold included a copy of his rules. The 1880s saw jigsaw puzzles popularized and Milton Bradley manufactured those in addition to his board games.

Milton Bradley was replaced as President of the company when he got a little too liberal giving free supplies to kindergarten schools. Investors complained and his close friend stepped in to buy out the irate investors. Milton Bradley was allowed to pursue his kindergarten concepts, while his friend presided over the game board business. By 1920, one third of Milton Bradley business was in making colored wax crayons for children, so the kindergarten theme paid off. It was the biggest manufacturer of board games. It bought out the McLoughlin Brothers Co. in 1920, a major games maker since 1850 in New York City. Parker Brothers was Milton Bradley's closest competitor, located in Salem, MA. It was started by George S. Parker in 1883, who made parlor games aimed for adults. They capitalized on Ping Pong in 1902 and the card games of Pit in 1904 and Rook in 1906. However, it was the game of Monopoly that brought it the most success. It became a worldwide best seller in 1935. Wonder why it was a hit to people coming out of the Depression? Where else could you buy property and make millions instantly, but in a fantasy-come-true board game! It must have been the timing because Milton Bradley's similar game, Easy Money, released years earlier, never reached that degree of popularity. A few other popular Parker Brothers



Battleship, The Uncle Wiggly Game, and Pit, several family fun entertainment options during COVID-19 shutdowns.

games you will recognize are Boggle, Mille Bournes, Ouija, Risk, Sorry and Clue. Parker Brothers was bought out by Hasbro, Inc. in 1991, after 108 years in business in Salem.

Another rival was Selchow and Righter, a game maker who owned the rights to Parcheesi and Scrabble. This company did not design these games, but owned the copyright to make them. Scrabble is considered the most popular word game in history, so needless to say it made serious money for the company. It later sold Trivial Pursuit, (1980 game) another blockbuster board game that enriched the company. It had been in the game business for 119 years before being sold in 1986 to Coleco Company.

Meanwhile Milton Bradley continued to flourish in its five factory buildings in Springfield. It was making some 410 games and making money. During WWII the company diversified to make a universal joint, designed by Milton Bradley President James Shea, that was used on fighter planes. The woodworking shop of Milton Bradley went into the production of gunstock barrels, both endeavors earning large US Army contracts. They stayed true to their gaming roots with production of Milton Bradley game kits for soldiers, selling two million kits.

Other Milton Bradley games that came out after the war were Axis and Allies, Candyland, Cootie, Barrel of Monkeys, Mouse Trap, Rack O, Yahtzee, Connect Four, Battleship, Scattergories, Hungry Hippos and Jenga and more.

The number of games was reduced to some 150 in a belt tightening effort. The game of Concentration saved the board game business from the demise predicted by the advent of television in 1959. It was a copy of the TV game show. It sold very well right up to 1982, this was after the TV show was discon-



Vintage boards for Parcheesi and Sorry.



Milton Bradley factory buildings in Springfield, MA. They were repurposed as residential housing in the late 1970s.

tinued in 1973. Ditto the MB game of Jeopardy. The game of Twister became an instant success in 1960 after Johnny Carson played the game with Eva Gabor on his late-night talk, a la up close and personal show! The electronic game of Simon was released in 1978 and it was a hit, although MB was ultimately unable to successfully break into electronic games.

Milton Bradley was bought out by Hasbro, Inc. in 1984, ending 124 years of family ownership. Many of its original games continue to be made and played. Many games are reissued after updating the themes involved. The game of Monopoly was released in a House Rules Edition in 2014 after learning that 68% of players had never read the rules and 50% made up the rules. This new edition incorporated popular made up rules like no paying rent while in jail.

Board games have evolved to stay relevant. Belly laughs enrich the game of Life! So, play on, my friend play on.

Do you have a memory or historical curiosity from the Hilltowns that you'd like to share with your neighbors? Send your story and photos to countryjournal@turley.com.

BLANDFORD

COVID-19

from page 3

one week after getting the flu. There are two main types of influenza (flu) viruses — A and B. Influenza A can be found in humans, birds and pigs; B is typically only found in humans. The weather itself cannot cause the flu.

COVID-19 is a contagious respiratory illness caused by an infection with a new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. It can cause mild to severe illness and most people recover within 14 days.

Symptoms develop five days after being infected, but symptoms can appear as early as two days after infec-

tion or as late as 14 days after infection and the time range can vary. COVID-19 is contagious about two days before experiencing signs or symptoms and remain contagious for at least 10 days after signs or symptoms first appear. If someone is asymptomatic — free of symptoms — or symptoms go away, it is possible to remain contagious for at least 10 days after testing positive for COVID-19.

People experiencing a Common Cold should stay home if they have signs of cough, sneezing, fever or feel

poorly, wear face mask, stay six feet social distance, use hand sanitizer and wash hands frequently.

People experiencing Influenza (Flu) with signs of cough, sneezing, fever or feel poorly should stay home and wear face mask, stay six feet social distance, use hand sanitizer and wash hands frequently

Anyone with COVID-19 should stay home with signs of cough, sneezing, fever, gastrointestinal problems, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea; have traveled to an outside state with 5% posi-

tivity rate over a seven-day rolling average; wear face mask, keep six feet of social distance, use hand sanitizer, and wash hands frequently

Residents are encouraged to “Stop the Spread” and get tested. Please visit www.mass.gov/covidtestmap for a location.

Please feel free to reach out to the Board of Health with any questions or concerns or if assistance is needed, at boh@townofblandford.com.

Let's all work together and stamp out COVID-19.

MONTGOMERY

SOLITARY SENTINEL



Inukshuk in the fog. Inukshuk is Inuit “spirit of man” sculpture.
Submitted photo by Pam Coe

BECKET

Becket goes for Joe Biden

BECKET — Joe Biden received 758 votes from town voters, beating Donald Trump’s 411 in the Nov. 3 election.

Sen. Ed Markey also staved off challenger Kevin O’Connor 740-395.

While voters supported Question 1’s bid for increased access to mechanical data for independent vehicle repair facilities and dealerships 875-231, Question 2’s bid to add ranked choice voting was defeated 467-622.

RUSSELL

Engineering month at library

RUSSELL – Calling all engineers! Come on in and see the variety of books the Russell Public Library has just for kids on engineering.

Also, look for the weekly Grab & Go Bag on how to use recycled materials to make a simple machine, or design and create an engineering project. Plus, try the engineering challenge.

Check the Country Journal, the message board at the library, and the library Facebook page for the details. Happy reading, designing, and building!

WILLIAMSBURG

Biden favorite among voters

WILLIAMSBURG — Joe Biden was the town choice for president by a massive 1,445 to Donald Trump’s 337.

Sen. Ed Markey received similar support, defeating challenger Kevin O’Connor 1,428 to 364.

Voters passed all four ballot questions in the Nov. 3 election —Question 1 had 1,454 in favor to 313 opposed, Question 2 1,130 to 648, Question 3 1,377 to 345, and Question 4 1,543 to 138.

Volunteer spots open for Council on Aging Advisory Board

WILLIAMSBURG — The Council on Aging Advisory Board has open spots for any interested volunteers.

Board members work with the Senior Center Director and staff to identify needs of the community’s elderly population; to educate and enlist community support concerning these needs; and to help design, promote, and implement services or programs for seniors. Commitment includes a meeting at 12:15 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. Appointments are for one, two, or three years.

This is a chance to collaborate with congenial colleagues to support our most vulnerable citizens. If interested, please reach out to the Board of Selectmen at selectmen@burgy.org or by 413-268-8400, ext. 9.

WESTHAMPTON

King’s Highway Bridge closed in Nov.

WESTHAMPTON — Effective Nov. 3, the Westhampton Highway Department announced that the Massachusetts Department of transportation will close the Kings Highway “skinny” Bridge for repair work through the end of November. Plan ahead and seek alternate routes during repairs.

OTIS

Town voters back Joe Biden

OTIS — Joe Biden was the town choice for president, securing 550 votes and surpassing Donald Trump’s 438.

Voters also saw a similar margin of victory for Sen. Ed Markey — 542 to 413 over challenger Kevin O’Connor.

Voters supported Question 1’s expanded access to mechanical data 656 to 288, while Question 2 for ranked choice voting was voted down 366 to 593.

MIDDLEFIELD

Voters choose Biden over Trump

MIDDLEFIELD — Joe Biden was the voters’ choice for President, receiving 199 votes to Donald Trump’s 124 in the preliminary results for the Nov. 3 Presidential election.

Sen. Ed Markey beat Republican challenger Kevin O’Connor 200 to 126.

Voters supported Questions 1, 3, and 4 with overwhelming majorities of 279, 194, and 254 in favor, respectively.

However, voters were against ranked choice voting with 188 opposed and 133 in favor for Question 2.

MIDDLEFIELD SENIOR CENTER

There is no lunch at the Senior Center, 169 Skyline Trail, Middlefield, on Wednesday, Nov. 11.

The annual Veteran’s Day dinner is unable to be held due to COVID-19, but the Center sends all Middlefield veterans heartfelt thanks during this time.

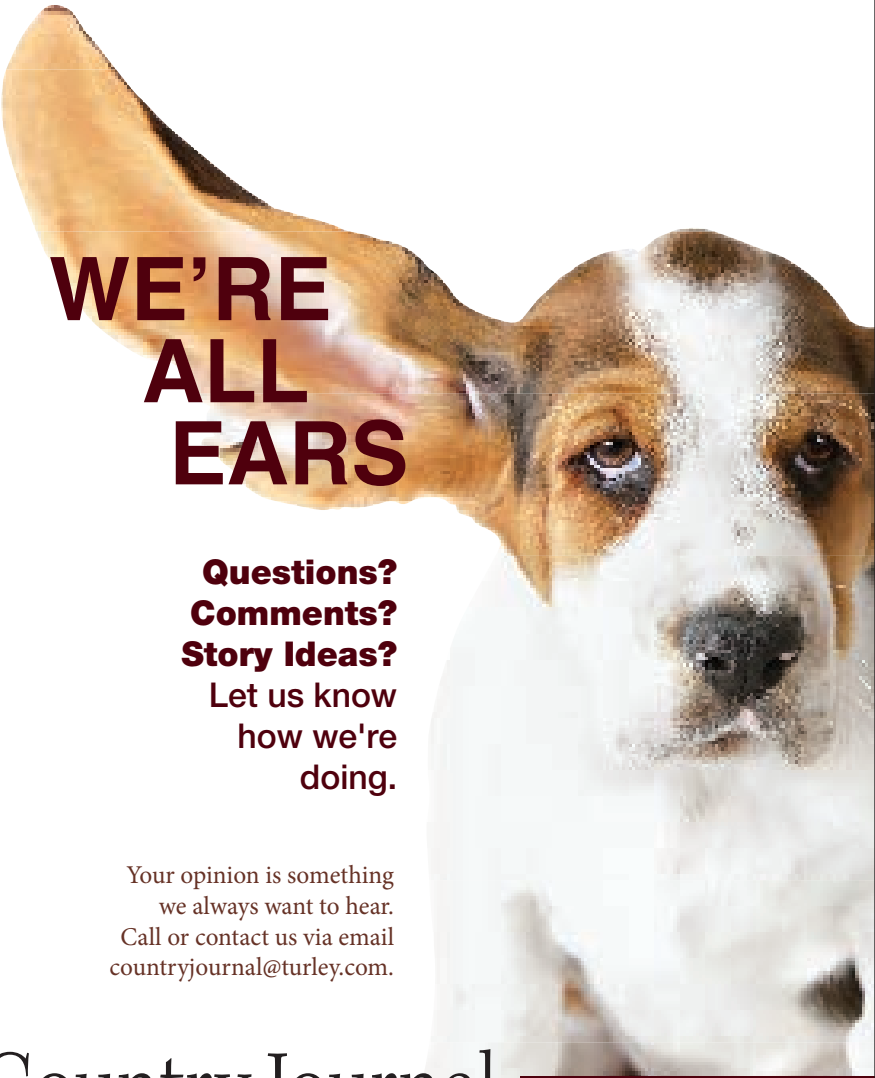
GOSHEN

Biden beats Trump among voters

GOSHEN — Eighty-five percent of town voters turned out to the polls on Nov. 3 and boosted Joe Biden to a 418-231 victory over Donald Trump for president.

Voters also backed Sen. Ed Markey 422-234 over challenger Kevin O’Connor.

Question 1, expanded mechanical data access for independent repair facilities and dealerships, passed 534-121; Question 2, ranked choice voting, was defeated 287-361; Question 3, instructing the district representative to vote in favor of legislation to have the state achieve 100% renewable energy in the next decade, passed 433-193; and Question 4, to instruct the representative to vote in favor of making all votes in the House of Representative’s Legislative committees publicly available, passed 519-91.



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Nick and Angelique Toroni dress as Beauty and the Beast for the Hamilton Memorial Library trunk.



Liz Massa from the Board of Health makes an impact with a spooky set up.



Officer Tammy Weidhaas mans the Chester Blandford Police Department trunk.



Janine and Steve Savoy set up shop as the final car in line.



Emery Field fills with cars for Halloween Night's trunk-or-treat, hosted by the Chester Recreation Committee, on Saturday, Oct. 31. People donated their pumpkins to line the entrance of the Trunk-or-Treat. Pumpkins lined the walkway and ensured social distancing by blocking off parking spaces and guiding excited candy gatherers down the correct path. The Library handed out books, with craft kits and candy carefully packaged.

Photos by Shelby Macri

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CHESTER

FRIGHT NIGHT



Prospect Street was adorned with spooky decorations for Halloween night. Submitted photos by Roseanne McClafin



TRUNK-OR-TREAT

from page 1

or-treat, while other volunteers helping during the event. The pumpkins blocking spaces also helped to light up the path for the excited candy hunters to follow. There were volunteers who set up their trunks with decorations and bags of candy, and there were trunks representing town departments as well. Including the Police department, the library, and the Board of Health.

The Hamilton Memorial Library

was unable to hold their annual book sale, so they handed out books with craft kits and candy to those coming around. The library trunk was run by Director Angelique Toroni, while Mary Ann Pease set up a trunk across from her with bags of candy. Pease brought 150 goodie-bags of candy, and had 40 left after the first hour. Other trunk-or-treat hosts were running out of candy too.

“I brought just under 100 bags, and I’ve had to barrow to candy from other trunks already,” Tammy Weidhaas said. “I’ll have to be more prepared next year; there will probably be another police trunk next year.”

Board of Health member Elizabeth Massa decorated her truck with a light up ghost and fall decorations. Massa donned a red cloak and a mask as she wanted to make a spooky impression

for her first trunk-or-treat.

“I was working up until four and I rushed home to get dressed and set up the car, and I had to grab the candy of course,” Massa said. “I wanted to go all out so I decided to dress more scary. I made a few kids cry and I felt bad, but it’s been a good night.”

There was a large community turnout for the event and Engwer said she was happy it was a success.



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SENIOR SOIREE



Hampshire Regional High School Seniors, from left, Jillian Scott, Maddie Jenkins, Jessie Paradis Stern, Morgan Dunham, Zoe Paradis Stern, and Katarzyna Salomao did a group costume of the Wizard of Oz for the Senior Halloween Party on Monday, Nov. 2. Photos by Shelby Macri



Paige Lech, Kaylie Novak, and Erin Reynolds dress up as the Clueless girls.



Seniors enjoy hot chocolate and donuts in the courtyard outside Hampshi



The seniors take a walk around the building in their costumes.



Olivia Donais as Daphne and Alyssa Beaulieu as Velma from Scooby-Doo.



From left, Sarah Guiel, Anna Madden, Emily Godden, and Eliza Reynolds dressed as characters from “Phineas and Ferb.”



Hampshire Regional Principal Kristen Smidy take pictures of each student costume before seniors grab their gift bags.



Class advisors Kim Hallett and Chris Butler dress as Flo from Progressive and Jake from State Farm

WORTHINGTON

Claydon Clarification

Editor’s note: Jerrilee Cain would like to add the following information about Ted Claydon to the article “Oldest resident honored with Golden Cane” (The Country Journal, Sept. 3).

Ted Claydon’s fascination with airplanes began when, at 7 years of age, a World War I biplane made a forced landing in a pasture at Mlrador Estate, Greenwood, Virginia, where Ted lived. That fascination never left him so that when he graduated from Huntington, Long Island, High School, he immediately enrolled and later graduated from Roosevelt School of Aviation.

In 1941, he began his first job with American Airlines at La Guardia Airport as a mechanic. However, American began promoting Ted immediately and he soon rose to the position of Head of all Maintenance for American’s fleet of planes at La Guardia, as well as all maintenance personnel there. Finally, American wanted to add Ted to their executive force at their headquarters in Dallas, Texas, but Ted, who had purchased the old Johnson Farm in Worthington and planned to retire there, turned down that opportunity.

The American executive who spoke at Ted’s retirement dinner ended his speech by saying, “Ted, through all of the problems and crises that we have faced throughout the 40 years that you have been with American, you have always conducted yourself as a gentleman.” And that rare characteristic is one that has been true of Ted his entire life.

Biden favorite among voters

WORTHINGTON — Joe Biden was the town choice for President, amassing 570 votes to Donald Trump’s 270 on Nov. 3.

Sen. Ed Markey was voted to return to office over challenger Kevin O’Connor 571-278.

Question 1 passed with an overwhelming majority, 686-167. The addition of ranked choice voting in Question 2 was narrowly defeated 405-435.

Meals from the Rabbit Hole return

WORTHINGTON — With the very generous assistance of the Rabbit Hole, Penny Molyneux and a group of donors, the Town of Worthington will resume providing meals for anyone who may have a need based on finance or access during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Meals will be available for pick-up at the Rabbit Hole on Sundays from 1 to 1:30 p.m. Please reserve meals before 3 p.m. on Friday by either leaving a message at 413-238-1625, texting 413-228-1625 with the number of meals needed, or contacting relief@worthington-ma.us.

If someone does not have the transportation to pick-up a meal or are otherwise incapacitated and need delivery, please also leave a name and address. Please be sure to speak slowly when leaving the message.

LICENSES

from page 1

language recommended by the state and it only applies to retail; other forms of marijuana business such as cultivation or manufacturing would still be able to get licenses.

“Some communities put that language in cause they’re ambivalent to marijuana in the first place,” Comia said. “There are some communities that are open, and they can remove that language with regards to limiting it. That’s language that’s suggested by the state.”

He later noted, “You could have a cultivator and a retailer and another cultivator, but you could only have the one retailer.”

The other factor with the license number is it can be amended later on if the town decides it wants to increase the number. As the application process is lengthy for a prospective marijuana business to enter the town, there would also be time to make any necessary amendments.

“The approval process is a very long process. We determined we could revisit it at another time if we determine we want to have another retail establishment,” Wang said. “We can revisit it at that time. We’d have to amend our bylaw.”

The board also discussed the 3% community impact fee, a staple of many Host Community Agreements signed between marijuana businesses and the host town. Wang said during the hearing there’s pushback against the fee as it was never intended to be a consistent revenue stream for the town and there’s an alternative to implementing a more permanent income source for the town.

“Town counsel advised that what is happening is people are pushing back against that. It’s also a time limited feature, it was never designed to be a revenue stream for the town,” she explained. “What we will be doing, the Selectboard has agreed to put it on the next warrant for annual Town Meeting, is there is a

specific tax enacted for retail sales of marijuana and it’s a 3% tax, which coincidentally is the same as the community impact fee. If adopted, it goes to the Department of Revenue and sent to us for any sales.”

Another major concern noted during the meeting is the importance of strictly regulating odor control. There are concerns as to the negative impact marijuana facilities can have due to odor. As the growing season in town is short, any cultivators would be expected to be indoors, making it easier to regulate.

“Jay Dwight, who is no longer on our board since he moved to Cummington, he mentioned he was in California visiting a friend the fellow said it’s [his property] basically not saleable now cause of the marijuana,” Wang said. “He said the smell from the facility is absolutely unbearable and the property has devalued considerably.”

The plan is to have a finalized bylaw to bring before the town at next year’s annual Town Meeting. The Planning Board feels it’s important to have town protection on the books as currently a prospective marijuana establishment would have to meet the state guidelines as the town has no bylaw of its own. The board is focused on making sure the residents are protected, especially with the addition of three phase power installation down Route 143 from Peru making a commercial greenhouse operation more feasible.

“We want to show we have things in place to protect Worthington, to protect our community, and to protect the members of our community,” Wang said. “We want to make sure we have our own standards.”

The board has Margaret O’Neal said the town anticipates holding a special town meeting sometimes this fall for the bylaw update.

SCHOOLS & YOUTH

MASKS

from page 1

made the characters heads to put on over their face. There were animal costumes, inflatable costumes, and plenty of superheroes and super naturals. After the seniors had their fill of the food, drink, and prizes, they were able to leave as it was a half day for them.

The class advisors also dressed in costumes, with Butler dressing as Jake from State Farm and Hallett dressing as Flo from Progressive. The party was held outside the school to make social distancing easier. The advisors had to deal with the wind and slight flurries as well, and though the wind misplaced a few things both Hallett and Butler

did their best to keep things running smoothly. Some students were prepared with blankets, even over their coats as flurries made their way to the party.

“I’m glad we were able to at least hold something, we have to be careful while serving the food, but we’ll do it to be able to put this on,” Butler said.

It’s the second creative gathering the senior class has found this year; they met before school started for the parking lot paint party. The advisors will continue to work to find ways to create fun and safe events for the Class of 2021 during the unique circumstances caused by COVID-19.

REMOTE

from page 1

The procedure, accepted as part of the Quarter 2 plan, outlines a remote snow day would start at 9:30 a.m. with the schedule depending on what day of the week snow falls, which the committee discussed on Oct. 26. The official policy is still being finalized.

“The admin team had a fun conversation about what to do with snow days this year,” Interim Superintendent Michael Sullivan said. “we are interested in using our remote capacity as a way to handle snow days, so we won’t have snow days... The nuance to that is our principals are interested in starting approximately 90 minutes later than normal just for stability’s sake.”

If the snow day falls on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday, students will have four six-minute periods online starting at :30 a.m. with a break for lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. Wednesday would have eight 30-minute periods.

Sullivan also broached the idea of, in the event of a very heavy snowstorm, possibly having the occasional fun snow day, which would be a full cancellation of school for the day as in years past.

“How will we notify that’s not [a snow day]?] How will we know the difference between what will be an actual learning day and what will be a snow day?” asked Paul Marcinek, committee member from Goshen.

“Out of fairness, I’d advertise that’s coming,” Sullivan said. “Let’s say it’s the second week of February and it looks like a big storm is coming, we’d send out a phone message that if we have substantial snow next week, we’re going to have a snow day.”

One of the areas the committee said could use more clarification is how a snow day or remote snow day will be communicated to parents and when that communication takes place. Sullivan said he anticipates it’d be similar to the current strategy used by the district, which involves a robocall around 5:30 a.m. to notify of a school closure.

“I think it would be a remote day of learning almost all the time, with the exception of if you want to have a fun snow day once or twice,” he said. “Largely I’d think, Paul, we’d still be deciding and messaging it the same way.”

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WORTHINGTON

Masked Procession



The crowd of costumed kids excitedly head up Huntington Road.



One resident along the parade route had prepackaged bags of candy for the kids.



Justin Baron, Billy Osgood, and Sierra Barton march up the road looking for candy.



Wes Kellogg as a Scoops Ahoy guy from “Stranger Things.”



Engine 1 leads to the parade out of the fire station parking lot and up towards the town center.



Excited trick-or-treaters and their families gather at the Fire Station on Huntington Road before the Halloween Parade in Worthington on Saturday, Oct. 31. Photos by Peter Spotts



Daisy the “Wonder dog” excitedly dashed all over the street during the parade.

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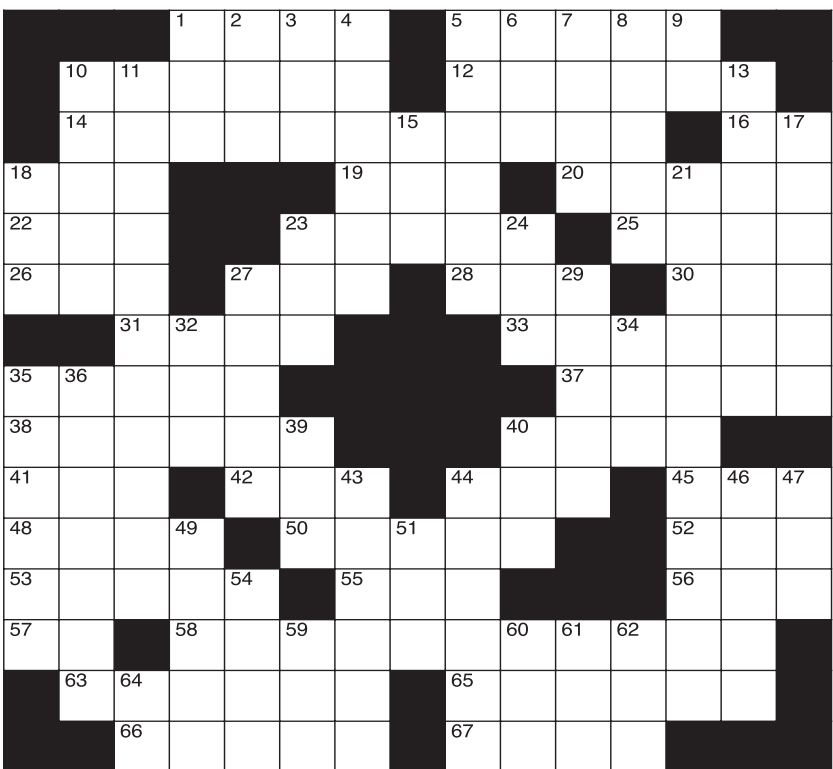
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Upright post on a boat

5. Sentimental person

10. Native American tribe

12. Wear away

14. Where you're going

16. Doctor

18. Popular Chinese dialect

19. One point east of due south

20. Northern sea duck

22. Note

23. Wives (law)

25. Trigonometric function

26. A way to communicate (abbr.)

27. Swiss river

28. No (Scottish)

30. Commercials

31. Large instrument

33. __ Chantilly, __ de Menthe

35. Small, saclike cavities

37. High and thin in tone

38. Treat extremely well

40. Famed track star Usain

41. Secure web connection (abbr.)

42. Rob of energy

44. Paving material

45. Cool!

48. Tip of Aleutian Islands

50. Indicates silence

52. Water in the solid state

53. Security interests

55. Popular hoopster

56. Shed tears

57. Low frequency

58. Harmful bacterium

63. Common language: lingua __

65. Standards of perfection

66. They consist of two parts

67. A detailed description of design

CLUES DOWN

1. More (Spanish)

2. A subdivision of a play

3. Japanese title

4. More jittery

5. Fabric

6. Luke's mentor __ - Wan

7. Cleaving tool

8. Ancient city of Egypt

9. 36 inches

10. Farewell

11. Second to last

13. Improved by critical editing

15. Defensive weapon (abbr.)

17. Fancy attire

18. __ Farrow, actress

21. Completely opposed

23. Supervises flying

24. Pouch

27. True firs

29. Mistake

32. Computing platform (abbr.)

34. Snake-like fish

35. Greatly horrify

36. Despicable person

39. Tell on

40. Ballplayer's tool

43. Central Brazilian town

44. Court game

46. Land

47. "The Partridge Family" actress Susan

49. Retract a statement

51. Data executive

54. Capital of Yemen

59. Portable computer screen material

60. Electronic data processing

61. "Matt Houston" actor

62. Resinous substance

64. Rural delivery

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPES

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20

Be prepared for some news at work, Aries. There may be a change in the hierarchy or another management change. Stay calm, as this could bode well.

CANCER
Jun 22/Jul 22

You may find yourself drawn into online activities or a new hobby that you never previously considered. This may awaken a new interest in you and live things up.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 23

Take a greater interest in movies, music or entertainment, Libra. It is always good to broaden your horizons. Plus, this will give you new subject matter for conversations.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20

New interests may capture your attention, Capricorn. Study different countries and their cultures to learn more about the world. Then plan future trips to an inspiring locale.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, someone new may come into your life and you could be completely enamored. This may be a romantic interest, or someone who simply understands your way of thinking.

LEO
Jul 23/Aug 23

Take a few moments this week to examine your finances. Spend time looking at recurring payments and where you can cut. Opt for a new form of record-keeping.

SCORPIO
Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, this week you may have a strong urge to do something exciting or adventurous. You might want to book a spontaneous trip or ride a roller coaster.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you may be at a crossroads in your life that has you wondering what the next step may be. Take advantage of increased online educational possibilities.

GEMINI
May 22/Jun 21

While technology already is ever-present in your life, this week you may be introduced to a new form technology in your home or place of work.

VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22

Strange developments may infiltrate your normally ordered schedule. Even though situations may be outside of your wheelhouse, keep an open mind about all possibilities.

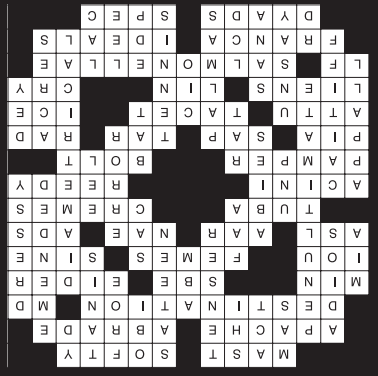
SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21

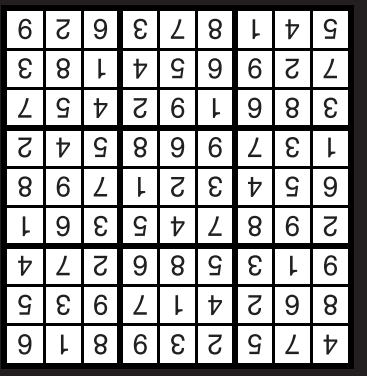
An unexpected career opportunity could be coming your way, Sagittarius. It's okay to be nervous, but focus more on the possibilities for advancement and excitement.

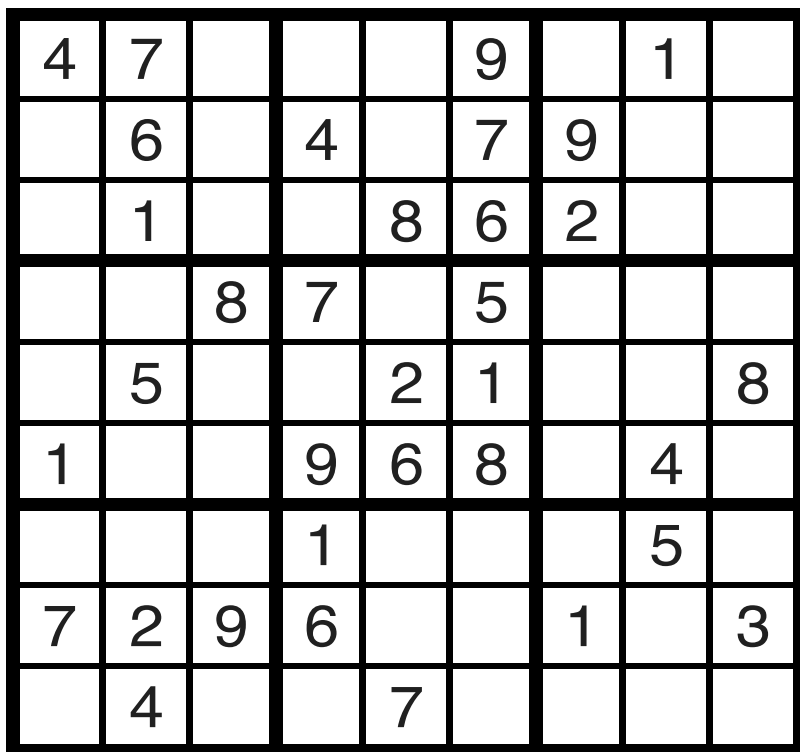
PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, if you have been pondering a reason to move, now may be the time to really put a plan into action. Start researching neighborhoods.

answers







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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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OBITUARY

Karen Ellen Willey, 67

Karen Ellen Willey, 67, formerly of Chester and Westfield MA, most recently residing in Plattsburgh NY, passed away due to complications of living with lung cancer for many years.

Karen was born in Shirley, MA, but spent her early years in Germany and California due to her father being in the Air Force. She eventually returned to Western Massachusetts and graduated from Westfield High School in 1971. After marrying her husband Steve in July of 1971, she spent her adult life living in various locations in Michigan, New Hampshire, and New York while her husband served in the Air Force. Her home for the last 35 years has been Plattsburgh, NY in the Champlain Valley.

Karen enjoyed volunteering at her children's schools and creative pastimes such as baking, cake decorating, crocheting, cooking for her family, and crafts. Her greatest joys in life were celebrating holidays and special occasions as well as vacationing with the people she loved, especially her children and grandchildren to whom she was exceptionally devoted. Her favorite activities included camping, sitting on an ocean beach



so she could hear the sound of the waves and smell the salty air, and seeing the autumn colors. She will always be remembered for her strength, kind smile, and legendary strawberry jam — as well as the many wayward felines who adopted her home as their own over the years.

Karen was predeceased by her mother Barbara Carrington, stepfather Albert Carrington, father Harold Viock, and sister Debra Whitmore.

She is survived by her husband of 49 years Steven A. Willey, her daughters Heather C. Willey and Courtney E Willey, her son Steven A. Willey II, and their respective partners; as well as her grandchildren Jacob, Mason, Rhonan, Malachi, Quinn, and Sterling. She is also survived by her sisters Diane Dunham, Kelly Cooley, Kim Graham, and many nieces and nephews

Karen will reach her final resting place at Russell Cemetery in Russell, MA on Friday, Nov. 6, at 1 p.m. All are welcome to join us. Due to Covid concerns, there will be no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers we ask that you donate to your favorite charity, to love one another, and be kind.

DEATH NOTICE

WILLEY, KAREN E.

Service Friday, Nov. 6, 1 p.m.
Russell Cemetery, Russell

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Goshen
Conservation Commission
Legal Notice

The Goshen Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting under the provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Chapter 131 Section 40) on **November 17, 2020 at 6:30 PM** at the Goshen Town Offices to review a **Request for Determination** filed by Kendra Ouimette for at 103 Bissell Road. The work to be

reviewed is maintenance of existing driveway in the buffer zone.
11/05/2020

Cummington ZBA Hearing
Public Notice

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 40A, § 11, the Cummington Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Community House, 33 Main Street, on **Wednesday,**

November 18, 2020, starting at 7:00 PM, to consider the application of Denise Correia and Roderick Rose for a variance from the dimensional requirements, sections 6-20 & 7-20 of the zoning bylaw. Specifically, to allow access to their property from a location other than through their road frontage. The property is located on Bryant Road, Assessor's map 14, lot 8 and map 7, lot 4. A copy of this appli-

cation is available on the Select Board's table in the Community House.

Any person interested or wishing to be heard on these matters should appear at the above-designated time and place.

Appropriate distancing and masks will be required of all attendees.

Michael Holden, Clerk
Cummington
Zoning Board of Appeals
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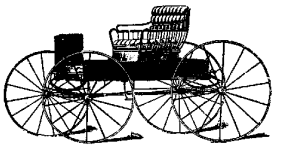
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or call toll free: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$10.00	22	Base Price \$9.50
23	Base Price \$10.50	24	Base Price \$11.00
25	Base Price \$12.00	26	Base Price \$12.50
27	Base Price \$13.00	28	Base Price \$13.50
29	Base Price \$14.00	30	Base Price \$14.50
31	Base Price \$15.00	32	Base Price \$15.50
33	Base Price \$16.00	34	Base Price \$16.50
35	Base Price \$17.00	36	Base Price \$17.50
37	Base Price \$18.00	38	Base Price \$18.50
39	Base Price \$19.00	40	Base Price \$19.50

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____

Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____

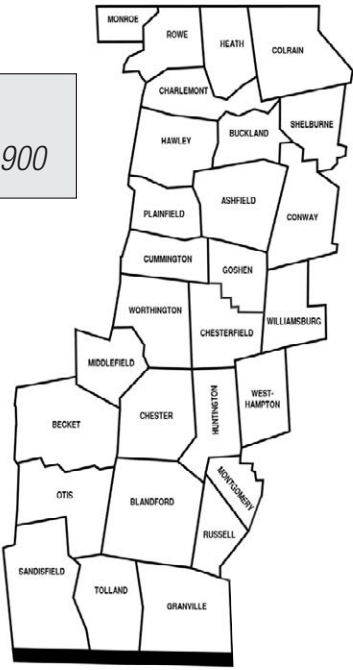
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____

Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

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